



# National Science Foundation

## *Competitive Position Vacancy*

**ANNOUNCEMENT NO:** C20010209

**OPEN:** 07/02/2001

**CLOSE:** 08/02/2001

**POSITION VACANT:** Public Affairs Assistant (OA), GS-303-6/7. Annual salary ranges from \$26,966 to \$38,954.

**PROMOTION POTENTIAL:** Public Affairs Assistant (OA), GS-303-7.

**LOCATION:** Office of the Director, Office of Legislative and Public Affairs, Media and Public Information Section, Arlington, VA

**BARGAINING UNIT STATUS:** This position is included in the Bargaining Unit and will be filled in accordance with the merit staffing provisions of the Collective Bargaining Agreement, Article VII.

**AREA OF CONSIDERATION:** All Sources. This position is open to status and non-status candidates, as well as candidates eligible for appointment under special non-competitive appointing authorities.

**DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:** Serves as Public Affairs Assistant in the Media and Public Information (M&PI) Section assisting the Section Head and Public Affairs Specialists. The section is responsible for all agency interactions with the news media and is a central focal point for many inquiries from the general public. The incumbent has broad responsibilities for formatting documents, file organization, and media advisories, tipsheet items, statements, fact sheets, public affairs guidance, etc. Responds to a variety of inquiries from agency program staff, scientific community, and the general public.

**QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED:** The Qualification Standards Handbook for General Schedule Positions will apply. U.S. CITIZENSHIP IS REQUIRED. Applicants must type at least 40 words per minute with three or less errors; submit a Certification of Proficiency or Self-Certification Form indicating typing speed. **Specialized experience:** Experience that has equipped the applicant with the particular knowledge, skills, and abilities to perform successfully the duties of the position and is typically in or related to the work of the position to be filled. **Time-in-Grade Requirement:** Completion of one year of service in a position at the next lower grade in the normal line of promotion progression for this occupation.

### **QUALITY RANKING FACTORS:**

- Skill in editing, proofreading, and formatting written material.
- Ability to compose non-technical correspondence.
- Ability to communicate orally and deal effectively with individuals at all levels.
- Knowledge of a wide range of computer hardware and software.

**BASIS FOR RATING:** Final ranking is based on an evaluation of your experience, education and training as they relate to the knowledge, skills and abilities specified in the Quality Ranking Factors. Current performance appraisal and awards may also be used in the evaluation process.

**CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT:** Appointment to this position is contingent upon successful completion of the appropriate background investigation. Satisfactory completion of a one-year probationary period may also be required.

**HOW TO APPLY:** You may apply for this position with the *Optional Application for Federal Employment* (OF-612), the older *Application for Federal Employment* (SF-171), a resume, or other application format of your choice - so long as it contains the necessary information (summarized below). Status candidates must also submit a *Notification of Personnel Action* (SF-50), showing competitive status, and a current Performance Appraisal. In order to ensure full consideration, it is recommended that you submit a supplemental statement which specifically addresses how your background and experience relate to each Quality Ranking Factor listed on this announcement.

Status candidates who wish to be considered under both merit promotion and delegated competitive examining procedures must submit two complete applications. If only one application is received, it will be considered under the merit promotion program.

Applicants who are eligible for appointment under special non-competitive appointing authorities must clearly specify your specific eligibility and provide proof with your application. Otherwise, the application will be considered under competitive procedures.

Applicants applying for special selection priority under the Interagency Career Transition Assistance Program must submit proof of eligibility (i.e., RIF separation notice, Notification of Personnel Action (SF-50) stating you were separated by RIF, OR a letter from your agency documenting your special selection priority status); copy of your current performance appraisal; and documentation of promotion potential in the position from which separated. To be determined well qualified to receive special selection priority for this position, you must meet all qualification and eligibility requirements, all selective factors, and be rated at the above average level or higher in each quality ranking factor.

Veterans who are preference eligibles or who have been separated from the armed forces under honorable conditions after three years or more of continuous active service may apply. Veteran candidates should attach a copy of your DD-214; and, if applicable, *Application for 10-Point Veteran's Preference* (SF-15), along with documentation specified on the form. (This is not necessary for status candidates for consideration under merit promotion procedures).

You must specify the job announcement number, and title and grade(s) of the job for which you are applying. You should also provide the following information:

- Your country of citizenship.
- Your social security number.
- Information about your education, including (1) high school graduation date and (2) college/university information - your major, and type and year of degree(s). If no degree, show total credits earned and indicate whether semester or quarter hours.
- Information about all your work experience related to this job, including job titles, duties and accomplishments, employer's name and phone number, number of hours worked per week, starting and ending dates (month and year), and annual salary. If you held various positions with the same employer, describe each separately.
- If you have Federal civilian experience, indicate the highest grade held, the job series, and dates held.
- The brochure *Applying for a Federal Job* provides information on the Federal job application process; it is available by calling the number listed below.

**If your application does not provide all the information requested in the vacancy announcement, you may lose consideration for this job.**

Submit all application material to National Science Foundation, Division of Human Resource Management, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Room 315, Arlington, VA 22230. Attn: Announcement Number C20010209. In addition to the required application materials, you are asked to complete and submit the attached Applicant Survey form. Submission of this form is voluntary and will not affect your application for employment. The information will be used for statistical purposes only. **ALL FORMS MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE CLOSING DATE OF THIS ANNOUNCEMENT.** For additional information call Fred Person on (703) 292-4369. Hearing impaired individuals may call TDD (703) 292-8044.

**NSF IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER COMMITTED TO EMPLOYING A  
HIGHLY QUALIFIED STAFF THAT REFLECTS THE DIVERSITY OF OUR NATION.**

**NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION  
APPLICANT SURVEY**

**OMB No. 3145-0096  
Expiration: August 2002**

Vacancy Ann. #: \_\_\_\_\_

Position Status (temporary/permanent): \_\_\_\_\_

Position Title/Series/Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

**INSTRUCTIONS**

Your completion of this form will be appreciated. Submission of this Information is voluntary and it will have no effect on the processing of your application. The data collected will be used only for statistical purposes to ensure that agency personnel practices meet the requirements of Federal law. Pursuant to 5 CFR 1320.5(b), an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to an information collection unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The OMB control number for this collection is 3145-0096. NSF estimates that each respondent should take about 3 minutes to complete this survey, including time to read the instructions. You may have comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this survey, including suggestions for reducing this burden. If so, please send them to NSF Reports Clearance Officer, Division of Administrative Services, NSF, 4201 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, VA. 22230.

**PRIVACY ACT INFORMATION**

**GENERAL** - This information is provided pursuant to Public Law 93-579 (Privacy Act of 1974), December 31, 1974, for individuals completing Federal records and forms that solicit personal information.

**AUTHORITY** - Section 7201 of title 5 of the U.S. Code and Section 2000e-16 of title 42 of the U.S. Code.

**PURPOSE AND ROUTINE USES**

The information is used for research and for a Federal Equal Opportunity Recruitment Program (FEORP) to help insure that agency personnel practices meet the requirements of Federal law. Address questions concerning this form and its uses to the Privacy Act Officer, National Science Foundation, Arlington, VA 22230.

1. Today's Date: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Year of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

3. How did you learn about the particular position for which you are applying? (Circle appropriate number.)

01 - Newspaper (specify)

02 - Contact with NSF Personnel Office

(Agency Bulletin Board or other Announcement)

03 - NSF-initiated personal contact

04 - Science Magazine, or other professional journal or magazine

(specify)

05 - Affirmative Action Register

06 - Attendance at conference, meeting or job fair

(specify)

07 - NSF recruitment at school or college

08 - Colleague referral

09 - NSF Bulletin

10 - Federal, State or local job information center

11 - State vocational rehabilitation agency or

Veterans Administration

12 - State employment office

13 - School or college counselor or other official

14 - Private job Information service

15 - Private employment service

16 - Friend or relative working at NSF

17 - Friend or relative not working at NSF

18 - NSF website

19 - Internet or other website

20 - Other (specify)

4. Please select the racial/ethnic category with which you most closely identify yourself. (Circle the appropriate letter)

A. **American Indian or Alaskan Native.** A person having origins in any of the original peoples of North America, who maintains cultural identification through tribal affiliation or community recognition.

B. **Asian or Pacific Islander.** A person having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, the Indian subcontinent, or the Pacific Islands. This area includes, for example, China, India, Korea, the Philippine Islands, and Samoa.

C. **Black, not of Hispanic origin.** A person having origins in any of the Black racial groups of Africa. This does not include persons of Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Central or South American, or other Spanish cultures or origins.

D. **Hispanic.** A person of Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Central or South American or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race.

E. **White, not of Hispanic origin.** A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Europe, North Africa or the Middle East. This does not include persons of Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Central or South American, or other Spanish cultures or origin.

5. Sex (Circle the appropriate letter.) F - Female M - Male

6. Please provide Information on your disability status by circling the appropriate category below:

1. I do not have a disability; 2. Hearing impairment; 3. Vision impairment; 4. Missing extremities; 5. Partial paralysis; 6. Complete paralysis; 7.

Convulsive disorder; 8. Mental retardation; 9. Mental or emotional illness; 10. Severe distortion of limbs and/or spine; 11. I have a disability but it is not listed.

**FOR AGENCY USE**

Agency Code: \_\_\_\_\_

**AN EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER**

## SUPPLEMENTAL QUALIFICATIONS STATEMENT TYPING AND SHORTHAND SKILLS, GS-2/7

**Complete and submit this form with you application.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ SSN \_\_\_\_\_

The following statement of proficiency in Typing or Shorthand or both will be accepted in lieu of a certificate of proficiency issued by an educational institution or other organization approved by the Office of Personnel Management as an alternative way of meeting the skills and abilities requirement of the position. When completing this form be specific in your claim(s) of proficiency (e.g., 50 w.p.m. and 3 errors). **Do not use ranges of proficiency (e.g., 45-50 w.p.m. and 2-4 errors).**

1. I certify that I can currently type \_\_\_\_\_ words per minute with no more than \_\_\_\_ errors. (40 wpm required). My typing speed and error rates are based on typing performance for a period of five minutes. I gained my typing skill through: \_\_\_\_ School \_\_\_\_ Work \_\_\_\_ Other\*.

\*Describe how you gained your skill.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. I certify that my current shorthand speed is \_\_\_\_\_ words per minute with no more than \_\_\_\_\_ errors and I can make correct transcriptions of my notes (80 wpm required). My dictation speed and error rates are based on shorthand performance for a period of 3 minutes. I gained my shorthand skill through: \_\_\_\_ School \_\_\_\_ Work \_\_\_\_ Other\*

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

I understand that claims of proficiency may be verified at the time of consideration for employment. I further understand that my inability to perform as certified above may constitute a basis for termination at the onset of employment or during the probationary period of employment.

**NOTE: YOU MUST SIGN AND DATE THIS FORM ON THE REVERSE SIDE.**

## PRIVACY ACT INFORMATION

The Office of Personnel Management is authorized by section 1302 of Chapter 13 (Special Authority) and sections 1301 and 3304 of Chapter 33 (Examination, Certification and Appointment) of Title 5 of the U.S. Code to collect the information on this form.

Executive Order 9397 (Numbering System for Federal Accounts Relating to Individual Persons) authorizes the collection of your Social Security Number (SSN). Your SSN is used to identify this form with your basic application. It may be used for the same purposes as stated on the application.

The information you provide will be used primarily to determine your qualifications for Federal employment. Other possible uses or disclosures of the information are;

1. To make requests for information about you from any source (e.g. former employers or schools), that would assist an agency in determining whether to hire you;
2. To refer your application to prospective Federal employers and, with your consent, to others (e.g. State and local governments) for possible employment;
3. To a Federal, State, or local agency for checking on violations of law or other lawful purposes in connection with hiring or retaining you on the job, or issuing you a security clearance;
4. To the courts when the Government is party to a suit; and
5. When lawfully required by Congress, the Office of Management and Budget, or General Services Administration.

Providing the information requested on this form, including your SSN is voluntary. However, failure to do so may result in your not receiving an accurate rating, which may hinder your chances for obtaining Federal employment.

### ATTENTION - THIS STATEMENT MUST BE SIGNED

**Read the following paragraph carefully before signing this Statement**

A false answer to any question in this Statement may be grounds for not employing you, or for dismissing you after you begin work, and may be punishable by fine or imprisonment (U.S. Code, Title 18, Sec. 1001). All statements are subject to investigation, including a check of your fingerprints, police records, and former employers. All the information you give will be considered in reviewing your Statement and is subject to investigation.

#### CERTIFICATION

I CERTIFY that all of the statements made in this Statement are true, complete and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief, and are made in good faith.

SIGNATURE (*Sign in ink*)

DATE SIGNED